

Remarks

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed September 25, 2002. No fee is due for the addition of new claims. Claim 1 was pending in the Application prior to the outstanding Office Action. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quinlan, et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,397,253, in view of Wagner, U.S. Patent No. 6,085,224, and in further view of McGee, U.S. Patent No. 6,393,468. The present Response amends claim 1 and adds claims 2-14, leaving for the Examiner's present consideration claims 1-14. Reconsideration of the rejections and consideration of the newly added claims is respectfully requested.

I. Examiner Interview

Representative for Applicants conducted a phone interview with Examiner Cesar B. Paula on November 26, 2002. During that interview, amended claim 1 and newly added claim 2 were discussed. Examiner stated that, upon a cursory review by the Examiner, the references do not appear to show the recited limitations of the claims.

II. Objection to the claim

Claim 1 was objected to due to a typographical error. Claim 1 has been amended to correct the simple typographical error. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that the objection has been overcome.

III. Rejection under 35 USC §112

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as lacking sufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "response header." Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that which is being claimed, and

should not lack sufficient antecedent basis. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection with respect to claim 1 be withdrawn.

IV. Rejection under 35 USC §103

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Quinlan* in view of *Wagner*, and further in view of *McGee*.

A. *Quinlan* - Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's reading of *Quinlan*. *Quinlan* is directed to a gateway component that runs on a client machine, that sets up and manages a persistent connection with a server through the Internet. (Col. 5, lines 15-56; col. 7, lines 17-25; Figure 1). It is this management approach that allows for the avoidance of "unnecessary scanning operations for detecting 'cookies'" (col 7, lines 26-36). Nowhere does *Quinlan* disclose the management of cookies. In fact, one of the advantages of the management approach of *Quinlan* is that a user does not have to detect and manage cookies (col 7, lines 26-36). *Quinlan* does not teach "stripping off any cookies set by an external web site from the response header of the response Web page."

Quinlan also does not teach or suggest "sending the modified response page, with the new header, to the client". First, *Quinlan* does not teach modifying a response page with a new header. Second, as discussed above, *Quinlan* does not teach "sending the modifies response page" to the client, as the gateway component is installed on the client and not on the server.

B. *Wagner* - *Wagner* does not make up for the deficiencies in *Quinlan*. Claim 1 has been amended to recite "stripping off any cookies set by an external web site from the response header of the response Web page and storing the cookies in a repository." *Wagner* does not disclose such a limitation, as *Wagner* only teaches detecting and deleting cookie data from the HTTP header of an incoming request before it is passed to the browser and stored in cache (col. 2, lines 61-65). Detected cookies are logged such that a user can view what was deleted and, if the user wants the deleted material, can "modify the configuration data" and

“cause the browser to request the page from the server again” (col 5., lines 18-38). *Wagner* does not teach or suggest “storing the cookies in a repository” on behalf of the client for a session id. As such, *Quinlan* and *Wagner* cannot render claim 1 obvious, either alone or in combination.

C. McGee - McGee also fails to make up for the deficiencies in *Quinlan* and *Wagner*. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner’s reading of *McGee*. *McGee* does not disclose the appending to session id to all the URLs embedded in a Web page. *McGee* instead teaches in the cited sections that access can be controlled to resources by not providing a client with a URL, but instead providing a token for items that can be validly accessed by a user (col. 4, lines 14-18; col. 10, lines 34-67; col. 11, lines 56-67). *McGee* in fact teaches away from appending a session id to a URL embedded in a Web page, as the user could still determine the location of the resource. “An advantage of this aspect of the invention is that the client is not provided with the actual reference information, such as a URL” (col. 4, lines 14-18). As such, *McGee* cannot make up for the deficiencies in *Quinlan* and *Wagner* with respect to claim 1. As none of the references teach or suggest the elements of claim 1, either alone or in combination, claim 1 cannot be rendered obvious by *Quinlan* in view of *Wagner* and *McGee*. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection with respect to claim 1 be withdrawn.

V. Newly Added Claims

Claims 2-14 have been added to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. These claims are supported by the specification and do not add new matter to the disclosure. Applicants respectfully request that the new claims be considered.

VI. Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 has been amended in order to clearly and particularly point out and distinctly claim that which is regarded as the invention of claim 1. The amendment is not intended to alter the scope of the claim or in any way limit any equivalence thereof.

VII. Amendments to the Specification

Amendments to the specification were made to correct simple typographic errors, and do not add any new matter to the specification.

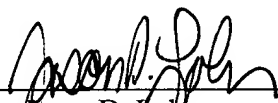
VIII. Conclusion

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and a Notice of Allowance is requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX

In the Specification:

Page 2, beginning at line 11:

When a new session is started, a unique session id can be generated. Within the same session, all embedded links in the response page can then be stamped with the same session id. A sessioned request is defined as a request that has session id information in addition to the request itself. The proxy server can relate a sessioned request to a session via the session id. The session continues as long as the user stays in the links of the first page or pages generated from links in the first page. A session expires when its age reaches the lifetime set by the server. The session lifetime can be configurable through a configuration parameter. Due to the dynamic nature of the session, users do not have to log into the proxy server that provides centralized cookie handling services. The same [Same] user can start multiple sessions at the same time.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3 line 10, as shown below.

In one embodiment, when a sessioned request is received, the proxy first retrieves and [stripes] strips off the session id from the request URL. The session id and the URL are then used to retrieve the cookies from the cookie repository. The proxy then uses the cookies retrieved to generate a cookie header. The new cookie header is then appended to the original request header. The session information is removed from the URL. The request is then sent to the external web site to fetch the page. After receiving the page from the external web site, the same procedure as that of handling a fresh request is used to process the header and the page.

In the Claims:

1. (Once Amended) A method to handle cookies in a response Web page requested by a client, the response Web page having a response header, the method comprising [the steps of]:

generating a session id to identify a new session;

[striping] stripping off any cookies set by an external web site from the response header of the response Web page and storing the cookies in a repository;

appending the session id to all of the links embedded in the response page; and

sending the modified response page, with the new header, to the client.

2. (New) A method for handling cookies for a client browser, comprising:

generating a unique session id in response to a request from a client browser;

removing any cookies from a response page for the request and storing the information in a cookie repository; and

appending unique session id to any URL in the response page before sending the response page to the client browser.

3. (New) A method according to claim 2, further comprising:

determining whether the client browser can accept cookies.

4. (New) A method according to claim 2, further comprising:

encrypting the session id.

5. (New) A method according to claim 2, further comprising:

checking the request for an existing session id before generating a unique session id.

6. (New) A method according to claim 5, further comprising:
retrieving a cookie from the cookie repository corresponding to the existing session id.
7. (New) A method according to claim 6, further comprising:
generating a cookie header corresponding to the retrieved cookie.
8. (New) A method according to claim 7, further comprising:
appending the cookie header to the request.
9. (New) A method according to claim 2, further comprising:
sending the request to an external Web site corresponding to the request.
10. (New) A method according to claim 2, further comprising:
setting a lifetime for the unique session id.
11. (New) A method according to claim 9, further comprising:
dropping the information from the cookie repository when the lifetime expires.
12. (New) A method according to claim 2, further comprising:
determining whether the client browser has disabled cookies.
13. (New) A method according to claim 2, further comprising:
receiving the request from the client browser to a proxy server, the proxy server hosting the cookie repository.

14. (New) A method for storing information for a client, comprising:

removing information from a document and storing that information in a repository on a proxy server;

appending an identifier to any link in the document and sending that document to the client, the identifier identifying the information being stored in the repository for the client.